

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NAIROB 09235 211534Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----018311 211607Z /43

P R 211420Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9916
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

S E C R E T NAIROBI 9235

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, US, SO, MASS
SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF KENYAN GOVERNMENT OF U.S. DECISION RE ARMS F
OR SOMALIA

REF: STATE 170047

1. PER REFTTEL, CHARGE' INFORMED KENYA FOREIGN MINISTRY PERMSEC
NG'ANG'A JULY 21 OF PRESIDENT'S DECISION IN PRINCIPLE TO PARTICIPATE
IN MULTINATIONAL EFFORT TO PROVIDE SOMALIA WITH ALTERNATIVE TO SOVIET
UNION AS SOURCE OF ARMS SUPPLY.

2. NG'ANG'A LISTENED CAREFULLY AND SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WAYAKI
WOULD BE CAREFULLY BRIEFED ON SUBSTANCE OF U.S. POSITION. NG'ANG'A
GAVE HIS INITIAL REACTION BUT SUGGESTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WAYAKI
MIGHT HAVE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO MAKE WHEN HE FIRST MEET WITH
AMBASSADOR LE MELLE NEXT WEEK.

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3. WHILE STRESSING AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS HIS HOPE THAT MAJOR
THRUST OF U.S. AND WESTERN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA WOULD BE IN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, NG'ANG'A SAID THAT KENYA WOULD PREFER THAT SOMALIA
RECEIVE ITS ARMS FROM FRIENDLY COUNTRIES RATHER THAN FROM SOURCES
SUCH AS SOVIET UNION. HOWEVER, HE AGAIN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT "GAPS"
TO BE FILLED BY WESTERN COUNTRIES IN SOMALIA'S DEFENSIVE REQUIREMENTS

WOULD BE DEFINED IN TERMS OF SOMALIA'S NEEDS FOR INTERNAL SECURITY
AND DEFENSE OF ITS EXISTING TERRITORY RATHER THAN IN TERMS OF REQUIRE

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MENTS TO SUPPORT EXPANSIONIST POLICIES. IN PARTICULAR, NG'ANG'A
EXPRESSED HOPE THAT USG, IN ASSESSING SOMALIA'S ARM NEEDS, WOULD TAKE
INTO CONSIDERATION SOMALIA'S CURRENT INVENTORY OF ARMS IN COMPARISON
WITH WHAT KENYA HAS SO AS NOT TO CREATE AN IMBALANCE.

4. IN CONCLUSION NG'ANG'A EXPRESSED GENERAL HOPE THAT WESTERN
COUNTRIES WOULD TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DIVERT SOMALI GOVERNMENT
AWAY FROM ITS PRESENT IRREDENTIST POLICIES AND THAT NET EFFECT OF
WESTERN INVOLVEMENT WILL BE TO DEFUSE RATHER THAN HEIGHTEN TENSIONS
IN HORN OF AFRICA.

LINDSTROM

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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